

Application No.: 10/627,833
Amendment dated: 06/27/2005
Reply to Office action of 04/07/2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Paragraph 2 of the Office action is not understood. The information disclaimer was proper so far as we can determine. In addition, it is not clear whether the Japanese document has been considered.

Figure 8 is now properly labeled as "Prior Art".

In claims 2, 3 and 4 the plunger is not a claim element. Rather, it is included simply to provide a context for the side wall of claim 2 and the arc-shaped plunger-contacting portion in claims 3 and 4. Accordingly, since the plunger is not a claim element, no antecedent basis is necessary or appropriate. Reconsideration of the rejection under §112 is requested.

Claims 5-8 and 13-16 have been canceled.

Claim 1, as amended, incorporates the convex, arc-shaped transverse cross-section of the plunger-contacting portion as set forth in canceled claim 5. This feature is depicted in FIG. 7, and discussed in paragraph 0047. With the plunger-contacting portion shaped as shown in FIG. 7, even if the slide rail 11 becomes slightly inclined in the direction of the width of the guide, the plunger-contacting portion 13 stably receives the plunger Tp and always contacts the axial center of the plunger Tp. As a result, stable travel of the transmission chain in the direction of the width of the guide can be ensured without generating the biased contact condition shown at X in Fig. 8. Neither Biedermann, nor any of the other cited references of record, discloses or suggests a convex, arc-shaped transverse cross-section in a the plunger-contacting portion. Therefore, the prior art does not demonstrate that it would have been obvious to one skilled in

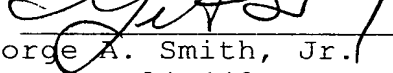
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the art at the time the invention was made to include this feature in a sandwich molded movable guide of the kind defined in claim 1, as amended.

A terminal disclaimer is included to avoid double patenting on patents granted on copending Applications 10/648,157 and 10/648,637. A single terminal disclaimer is submitted in accordance with MPEP Section 804.02(IV).

Applicant submits that claims 1-4 and 9-12 should be found allowable and requests reconsideration and allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
HOWSON & HOWSON

By 
George A. Smith, Jr.
Reg. No. 24,442
Howson & Howson
Box 457
Spring House, PA 19477
Telephone: 215 540 9200
Facsimile: 215 540 5818

Application No.: 10/627,833
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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace the sheet bearing FIG. 8 with the attached replacement sheet. An annotated sheet of the drawing, showing the changes, is also attached.

Fig.7

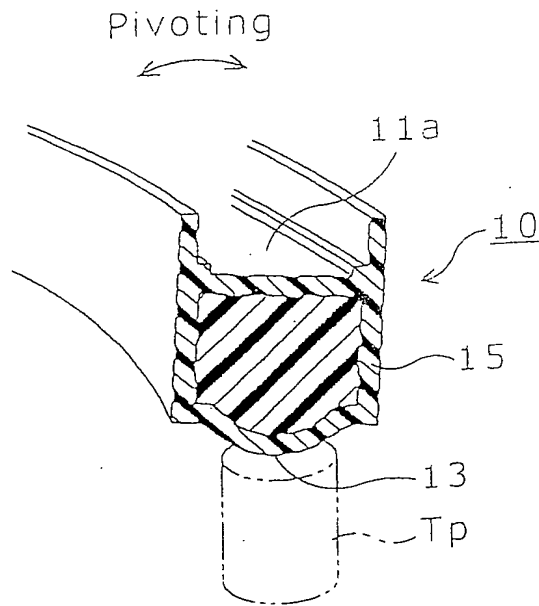


Fig. 8
Prior Art

